



## INTRA-LABORATORY MEMO

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April 14, 2003

TO: Argonne Technical Staff

FROM: H. A. Grunder, Director

SUBJECT: **Call for FY 2004 Pre-Proposals for New LDRD Director's Competitive Grants**

I am soliciting pre-proposals of creative, novel, innovative, and exciting research and development projects for the Director's Competitive Grants component of the Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) Program. I encourage you to participate.

The Director's Competitive Grants component of LDRD seeks pre-proposals for new, creative, exploratory research and development projects in any field or multidisciplinary area aligned with the missions of the Laboratory. We encourage multi-investigator, single investigator, basic, applied, theoretical simulation, and/or experimental research pre-proposals, and expect the selected portfolio to be balanced with respect to these factors. Pre-proposals for a new project should specify the expected project duration and level of funding required to achieve its goals. We expect most projects approved to be in the range \$50K to \$180K per year. Along with originality, innovativeness, importance, scientific/technical quality and potential, and alignment with Argonne's missions, the size and duration proposed will be factors considered in the proposal review process. Note that the requirements of the current DOE Order 413.2A governing LDRD at multiprogram national laboratories must be observed. A copy of the Order is available on the Argonne intranet at <http://www.anl.gov/LDRD>.

Pre-proposals for projects that do not fall under currently identified strategic initiative areas must be submitted in response to this Call. Such projects may use this avenue to lay the groundwork for topics that become future strategic initiatives.

General LDRD guidance, as well as specific guidance for preparing and submitting Competitive Grants pre-proposals, is posted at the LDRD web site. Pre-proposals should be submitted directly to the LDRD Program Manager, OTD-201, by **May 23, 2003**. The Director's Review Committee will invite authors of new top-rated pre-proposals to submit full proposals for further review. Pre-proposals are not required to renew ongoing projects that had requested FY 2004 funding in their original proposals. Full proposals for renewals will be invited from current grantees at the time the Review Committee invites full proposals for new projects. Details are provided in the referenced guidance.

It is anticipated that approximately 20% of the LDRD resources will be available for new and renewal Competitive Grants in FY 2004. For FY 2003, 16 new Director's Competitive Grant proposals and 17 renewals were funded. This portfolio reflected a balanced mix of exciting research. I expect that, as in past years, this Call for pre-proposals will elicit an equally rich set of innovative concepts.

HAG: jr

copy to:

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